

17. An apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said light source excitation filters are mounted on a first wheel and said sample emission filters are mounted on a second wheel and both said filters are rotatable into and out of a path of said light; and

wherein said field illuminator further comprises means for synchronizing said first wheel and said second wheel such that all desirable combinations of said light source excitation filters and said sample emission filters can be used during said tests.

18. An apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said field illuminator further comprises:  
a light diverting prism; and

a reference detector having means for quantifying an energy level of said light emanating from said light source, wherein said quantified energy level is selectively used in evaluating said light fluorescing out of said sample.

19. An apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said field illuminator directs light into said chamber containing said sample and collects light produced by transmittance passing through said sample.

20. An apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said light filter comprises:  
a plurality of light source excitation filters;

a plurality of sample emission filters;  
wherein said light source excitation filters block wavelengths of said light emanating from said light source and said sample emission filters block wavelengths of said light emanating from said sample.

21. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said light source excitation filters are mounted on a first wheel and said sample emission filters are mounted on a second

wheel and both said wheels permit rotation of said filters into and out of a path of said light; and wherein said field illuminator further comprises means for synchronizing said first wheel and said second wheel such that all desirable combinations of said light source excitation filters and said sample emission filters can be used during said tests.

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22. An apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said field illuminator further comprises: a light diverting prism; and a reference detector having means for quantifying an energy level of said light emanating from said light source, wherein said quantified energy level is selectively used in evaluating said light emanating from said sample by fluorescence.

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23. An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said means for determining one of said through-plane thickness or said volume of said sample field includes said information retrieving means retrieving information from a label concerning the chamber which information includes one of said through-plane thickness of said sample field or said volume of said sample field.

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25. An apparatus for testing a sample of biologic fluid, said apparatus comprising:  
(a) a disposable container having a label and a chamber for quiescently holding the sample, said label containing information which is used in the performance of one or more tests on the biologic fluid sample quiescently residing within said chamber;

5 (b) a reader module which receives said disposable container, said reader module including:

a label reader for reading said attached label, and thereby accessing said information;

10 a field illuminator for selectively illuminating a field of the sample, said sample field having a known or ascertainable area;

a positioner, which is operable to selectively change the position of one of said chamber or said field illuminator relative to the other of said chamber or said field illuminator, thereby permitting selective illumination of a plurality of said sample fields within said chamber; and

15 means for spatially locating said chamber relative to said field illuminator;

wherein said means for spatially locating said chamber relative to said field illuminator enables said field illuminator to be aligned with a particular spatial location within said chamber.

20 26. An apparatus according to claim 25, wherein said reader module further comprises: an image dissector, for converting an image of light passing through or emanating from each said sample field into an electronic data format useful for test purposes.

27. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said reader module further comprises:

25 means for determining one of a through-plane thickness or a volume of said sample field.